

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 01198 011231Z

46

ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 SCA-01 PPT-02 SCS-03 EUR-25 OC-06

CCO-00 A-01 CPR-02 AID-20 OPR-02 IO-14 INSE-00 COME-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-20 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SAM-01 USIE-00

INRE-00 DRC-01 /142 W

----- 034383

O 011126Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3182

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 1198

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, PK

SUBJ: PAKISTAN RESTRICTIVE VISA POLICY

REF: ISLAMABAD 757

1. EMB OFFS MET YESTERDAY WITH M. ZIA HUSSAIN, DEPT. SECRETARY (FOR VISA MATTERS) MIN. OF INTERIOR TO DISCUSS PROBLEM OF RESTRICTIONS ON FOREIGNERS TRAVEL TO PAKISTAN DURING THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. HUSSAIN, WHO SEEMED COOPERATIVE AND HELPFUL, REPORTS TRYING TO MINIMIZE DISRUPTIVE EFFECTS OF RESTRICTIONS. HE ACKNOWLEDGED PROBLEM OF OVERLY ZEALOUS IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS ENFORCING MISUNDERSTOOD POLICIES AND RELATED THAT HE HAS THREATENED TO RELIEVE ASS. DIR. OF IMMIGRATION AND PASSPORTS, LAHORE, FOR HIS MISTAKEN INTERPRETATION OF NEW POLICIES. HUSSAIN PROMISED TO QUICKLY RECTIFY ANY PROBLEMS CONCERNING MIS-INTERPRETATION OF POLICIES BROUGHT TO HIS ATTENTION AND FURTHER PROMISED

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 01198 011231Z

THAT HIS MINISTRY WOULD COMPLETE VISA CLEARANCES WITHIN

TWELVE TO EIGHTEEN HOURS.

2. HUSSAIN SAID THAT ALL VALID PAKISTAN VISAS, REGARDLESS OF CATEGORY OR WHEN ISSUED, WOULD BE HONORED. HOWEVER, SINCE "SOME VISAS HAD BEEN ISSUED HAPHAZARDLY" SOME CATEGORIES OF FOREIGNERS WOULD HAVE TO OBTAIN "NEW VISAS" IN ORDER TO BE ALLOWED TO STAY BEYOND FEB. 10. WHILE IT REMAINS UNCLEAR AS TO WHICH FOREIGNERS THIS REQUIREMENT WOULD APPLY, HUSSAIN SAID THAT THOSE INCLUDED IN NINE CATEGORIES EXEMPT FROM PRE-CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS, AS REPORTED REF. TEL. WILL ALSO BE EXEMPT FROM THIS REQUIREMENT. IN ADDITION, HE SAID THAT THOSE FOREIGNERS ADMITTED BEFORE THE SPECIAL MEASURES WENT INTO EFFECT WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN NEW VISAS.

3. HUSSAIN PROMISED THAT NEW VISAS DISCUSSED PARA 2 WOULD BE ISSUED BY FEB. 10. SO THAT PROBLEM OF FOREIGNERS WHO DO NOT RECEIVE VISAS BY THAT DATE BEING FORCED TO LEAVE PAKISTAN WILL NOW OCCUR. HE CLAIMED TO HAVE SPECIFICALLY WARNED THE ASS. DIR. OF IMMIGRATION LAHORE ABOUT THIS POINT.

4. HUSSAIN SAID THAT PAKISTAN'S BORDERS WILL NOT BE CLOSED AFTER FEB. 10. AND THAT PERSONS WITH VALID VISAS WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER AFTER THAT DATE.

5. ASKED IF THE RESTRICTIVE POLICY WOULD BE CONTINUED FOR THE AWAMI FIAR SCHEDULED IN LAHORE FOR MARCH 3-10, HUSSAIN SAID THAT THE RESCRIPTIONS WOULD NOT CONTINUE FOR ONE MINUTE BEYOND MIDNIGHT FEBRUARY 28.

6. ASKED IF THE EMBASSY SHOULD DISCOURAGE TOURISTS FROM APPLYING FOR VISAS DURING THIS PERIOD, HUSSAIN SAID "NO, NOT AT ALL." HE SAID THAT CLEARANCE FOR TOURIST VISAS WOULD BE HANDLED DIRECTLY BETWEEN PAK MISSIONS AND MIN. OF INTERIOR AND THAT NO DIPLOMATIC NOTES ON THE BAHALF OF TOURISTS WOULD BE REQUIRED.

7. HUSSAIN SAID THAT FOREIGNERS RESIDENT HERE WHO PLAN TO EXIT FROM AND RETURN TO PAKISTAN DURING PERIOD OF RESTRICTIONS SHOULD GET RE-ENTRY VISA PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. HE CLAIMED TO HAVE DIRECTED THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION IN KARACHI AND THE REGIONAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 01198 011231Z

PASSPORT AND IMMIGRATION OFFICERS TO ISSUE RE-ENTRY VISAS TO THESE RESIDENTS WHEN THEY EXIT PAKISTAN.
BYROADE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ISLAMA01198
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740263/aaaacgpr.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION VO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: ISLAMABAD 757
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Aug-2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <14-Aug-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PAKISTAN RESTRICTIVE VISA POLICY
TAGS: CASC, PK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005